

NURSING DIVISION

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF WINDSOR

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1969

ANNUAL REPORT

of

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

R.A.
WINDSOR



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WINDSOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To The Chairman and Members of the
Windsor Rural District.

Councillors are aware that when the Annual Report is presented the comments of the Medical Officer of Health are written in the year after the one to which the statistics relate and indeed if delayed a little longer statistics for the following year could be included as well.

Statistics and technical opinion are well covered by Mr. Barker, the Public Health Inspector, and I at once express my appreciation and confidence and indeed my reliance upon him. As a holder of three appointments and based in an office other than that of the Rural District my day to day contact appears less close than in the Borough of Windsor, but even there much of my time is taken up in administering the personal health services and some 6 or 7 hours on clinical work. Responsibility for my duties to the Rural District remains and requires ready availability.

S.J. McCLATCHEY

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

Councillor E.H. Lane, B.E.M. (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs. M.R. Carr (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Miss Andrews

Councillor Mrs. Baker

Councillor J.H.F. Matthews (Chairman of the Council)(ex officio)

Councillor C. Miles

Councillor T.D. Misselbrook

Councillor R.W. Portus

Councillor R.A. Willis

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS

Medical Officer of Health

S.J. McCLATCHEY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector and Building Surveyor.

W.E. BARKER, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector and Assistant Building
Surveyor

J. COWBURN, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Staff

MRS. D.R. PAMMENT

MRS. E.A. STRINGER

Manager of Sewage Disposal Works

S. VOUT

Engineer in Charge of Pumping Stations

E. WOOD

Rodent Operative

G.E. FROSDICK

Foreman of Refuse Collection Staff

Sunningdale
Sunninghill
Old Windsor

S.T. LA COMBRE

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

We are well aware of our local environmental problems some of which have been removed and some of which are quiescent but the carriage system bringing sewage to the sewage works gives cause for concern, due to occasional but recurrent nuisance from smell. Consultants have advised special lamps, the deodorising properties of which I am sceptical, neither can the entire blame be placed on the effluent from an industrial site which flows in at the point in question. It appears that the, at times, slow passage of sewage along the sewers allows putrefaction to build up and this may well have deserved more consideration than was given to it at the planning stage.

A recent addition to the noise nuisance has been that of aircraft and is largely the result of alteration of flight paths to placate communities who have loudly and with some effect voiced their complaints. In fact the nuisance is now spread to the west as far as Reading, although increased height at that distance gives somewhat less nuisance. It is disturbing to feel however that influence in high places has reduced the noise problem over low density but high status areas and passed it on to others.

During 1970, in which this report is being written, public attention has been drawn to the world wide problem of pollution apart altogether from consciousness of local problems such as refuse collection and river pollution. Comments as a Medical Officer of Health are likely now to be only repetitive of what has been given wide coverage in press and on television. Conservation year has also drawn attention to the danger of extinction of certain species of wildlife and I must confess only to have sympathy rather than concern if certain varieties disappear. What is important is the danger in upsetting the balance of nature which could result in homo sapiens struggling for survival, at least on such a large scale. Man himself has upset the balance of nature by reducing infant mortality and extending the expectation of life. To the godly I would say that God has allowed us to gain the knowledge to achieve this state so it might not seem unreasonable that knowledge on more recent methods of birth control should allow us to limit the numbers which can be supported in full stature on earth. To others I would simply say that if you want to avoid the displeasure of living in a massive urban state with the attendant unpleasantness of too many of your fellows in one spot then birth control is essential.

"Teeming millions" hardly applies to our pleasant rural area of Old Windsor, Ascot, Sunninghill and Sunningdale but it is sufficiently close to London to appreciate the unpleasantness of too many people in one place at one time. The Green Belt so far gives protection but in due course increasing population requires more housing, or young people are further encouraged to leave the area to seek housing in addition to the search for suitable employment. The stage has not yet been reached as with certain south coast resorts where the demand for services for the aged poses a serious administrative and financial problem. It is perhaps more fortunate than may at first appear to have the proximity of an employment centre such as Bracknell, and yet if an age balance is to be preserved in our community some thought needs to be given to providing accommodation and to include a proportion for those likely to remain single. The traditional landlady who provided accommodation for mature single men and women is now difficult to find.

Windsor Rural District has a justly proud record in housing provision for senior citizens but provision for others is largely a planning matter probably better dealt with over a wider area. It is argued that the young can obtain loans to make private purchase but there will always be those whose capacity and drive render them unacceptable for housing loans and more of these have personalities which leave them unattached to a family unit. A plea is made for consideration of this small group and even a token provision. The number of such people is unknown but one hesitates to research into the matter without hope of improvement.

PERSONAL HEALTH

Most of the personal services provided by the County Council are familiar to members and these relate to a considerable extent to maternal and child health.

I would like now after two years to pay tribute to a band of voluntary workers who during that time have maintained a unit in Old Windsor Hospital catering for severely subnormal children.

A need existed to help parents of children handicapped usually by mental as well as physical defect and for whom permanent hospital care was not available or may not have been desired by the parents. The Windsor & District Society for Mentally Handicapped Children were able to negotiate at nominal cost and a charge for services, a ward in Old Windsor Hospital which was no longer in use. This has been staffed

entirely by volunteers and some 20 children have been cared for on three days each week except for the usual holiday breaks. At first it was feared that one would have to depend on help from the parents of the children themselves working on a rota basis which would to some extent have defeated the object. In fact, however, the volunteers, with only a rare and occasional exception, have not been the parents of the children present.

Voluntary contributions obtained by the Society were largely depended upon but now a County grant is received and possibly a fuller involvement of the County Council can be foreseen.

There has been some increase in the number of permanent hospital places for such children but the provision of some day relief has already shown that more parents now feel they can keep their children at home rather than seek hospital admission. This is one further example of voluntary effort leading the way to what will probably be accepted local authority provision. It is perhaps desirable that this should have been so in that the Society has been able to create something worthwhile and that the County Council will be offered a venture which has been a success.

STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ... ..	...	...	8,665
Home Population (Registrar-General's Estimate mid-year 1969) ... ..	...	...	17,370
Number of Inhabited Houses at 1st April 1969. ... ..	...	...	5,208
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1969.. ... ..	...	...	£926,950
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (year ending 31.3.70) ... ..	...	...	£3,662

BIRTHS

	<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>		<u>STILLBIRTHS</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Total Births	120	118	3	1
Legitimate... ..	113	111	2	1
Illegitimate.	7	7	1	-
	<u>WINDSOR</u>		<u>ENGLAND</u>	
	<u>R.D.</u>		<u>& WALES</u>	
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population..	13.7		16.3	
Local adjusted rate..	12.9			

INFANT DEATHS

	<u>MALE</u>		<u>FEMALE</u>	
Total Deaths of Infants under 1 year	1		1	
Legitimate... ..	1		1	
Illegitimate.	-		-	
Total Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks..	1		1	
Legitimate... ..	1		1	
Illegitimate.	-		-	
	<u>WINDSOR</u>		<u>ENGLAND</u>	
	<u>R.D.</u>		<u>& WALES</u>	
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population..	12.2		11.9	
Local adjusted rate..	10.0			
Infant Mortality Rate	4.0		18.0	
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths & deaths of infants under 1 week of age)	17.0		23.0	

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DISTRICT DURING 1969

								<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Malignant Neoplasm - Buccal Cavity etc.	...	...						2	-
"	"	Stomach	...	...	...	...		1	1
"	"	Intestine	..	...	...	...		6	2
"	"	Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...		6	6
"	"	Breast	...	...	...	...		-	4
"	"	Uterus	...	...	...	...		-	2
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...		-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	.	...	...	...	...	...		6	1
Diabetes Mellitus	...	...	...	...	...	...		-	2
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...		-	1
Anaemias	...	...	...	...	...	...		-	2
Mental Disorders	...	...	...	...	...	...		-	1
Other Diseases of Nervious System etc.	...	...						1	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	.	...	...	...	...	...		1	-
Hypertensive Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...		1	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...		28	12
Other Forms of Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...		9	14
Cerebrovascular Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...		12	17
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	..	...	...					4	4
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...		2	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...		4	12
Bronchitis and Emphysema	..	...	...	...	...	...		10	5
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	..	...	...					-	1
Peptic Ulcer	..	...	...	...	...	...		1	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System	...	...	...					-	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...		1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	...	...	...		1	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	.	...	...					2	-
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	...	...	...					-	1
Congenital Anomalies	...	...	...	...	...	...		-	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	...	...	...					-	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...		3	1
All other Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...		4	2
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	...	...	...					-	1
								<hr/>	<hr/>
								Totals	...
								105	107
								<hr/>	<hr/>

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

	Under 1 year	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	Total noti- fied
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	7
Measles	-	10	5	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	18
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sonne Dysentery	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	9	4	-	2	-	-	-	15

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp.	
	M	F	M	F
0 years	-	-	-	-
1 year	-	-	-	-
5 years	-	-	-	-
15 years	-	-	-	-
25 years	-	-	-	-
35 years	1	-	-	-
45 years	-	-	-	-
55 years	1	-	-	-
65 years & upwards	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	-	-	-

During the year there were reported, 1 outward transfer and 2 recoveries, giving a total of 56 cases on the register at the end of 1969.

INSPECTIONS, NOTICES SERVED & REFERENCE TO
OTHER WORK CARRIED OUT BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

NO. OF VISITS

Drainage	-	-	-	320
Water Supplies	-	-	-	9
Swimming Pools	-	-	-	19
Milk Supplies	-	-	-	34
Food Inspections	-	-	-	26
Food Premises	-	-	-	103
Itinerant Food Vendors	-	-	-	28
Bakehouses	-	-	-	6
Moveable Dwellings	-	-	-	64
Infectious Diseases	-	-	-	6
Miscellaneous Nuisances	-	-	-	78
Streams & Water Courses	-	-	-	141
Refuse Tip	-	-	-	40
Sewage Works	-	-	-	36
Pumping Stations	-	-	-	118
Public Conveniences	-	-	-	24

NOTICES:-

(a) No. of informal notices served during the year under P.H. Acts	25
(b) No. of formal notices served during the year	3
(c) Work carried out by Local Authority in default	-
(d) Legal proceedings	-

MILK SUPPLY

Details of samples submitted for heat treatment, keeping quality, colony count and turbidity tests are set out hereunder.

	Methylene Blue		Phosphatase		Colony Count		Turbidity Test	
	Satis:	Failed	Satis:	Failed	Satis:	Failed	Satis:	Failed
Pasteurised	11	-	11	-	-	-	-	-
Pasteurised Channel Island	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Pasteurised Homogenised	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Ultra Heat Treated	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Raw T.T.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sterilised	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

ICE CREAM

Thirteen samples were taken, of which ten were reported as Grade 1 and three as Grade 2 by the Public Health Laboratory.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

The following is a list of food premises which are subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960. With one exemption, the premises comply with the requirements of Regulations 16 & 19. In accordance with the directions given in Circular 1/70 (Annual Report of the Medical Officer for 1969), the 135 premises have again been grouped in Trade categories. There are no poultry processing premises within the District.

Butchers/fishmongers	-	-	13
Greengrocers	-	-	9
Grocers, Confectioners etc.	-	-	50
Restaurants & Cafes	-	-	4
Bakehouses	-	-	3
Dairies	-	-	1
Licensed Premises	-	-	30
Clubs	-	-	5
Schools	-	-	16
Factories & Offices	-	-	4

UNSOUND FOOD

The undermentioned food was surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human consumption during the year.

CANNED PRODUCTS

Meat	-	-	61 lbs.
Vegetables	-	-	3 lbs.
Fish	-	-	20 lbs.

FRESH FOOD

Meat	-	-	1 cwt. 46 lbs.
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FROZEN & CURED FOODSTUFFS

Meat	-	-	54 lbs.
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There were two instances when foodstuffs were dealt with as unsaleable due to the breakdown of refrigerated display units.

THE MEAT STAINING & STERILIZATION REGULATIONS 1960

MEAT (STERILIZATION) REGULATIONS 1969

During the year 1969 approximately 564 tons of imported unfit meat were released from the docks for sterilization and, or, part processing at a local animal feeding stuffs factory. The meat (primarily horse meat and various offals) was in the main released by the Corporation of London Port Health Authority, although an increasing amount was received from the East Coast Port Health Authorities. In the latter half of the year, consignments amounting to 207 tons of corned beef loaf in 6 oz. and 12 oz.

cans, released for manufacturing of animal feeding stuffs, were received. From the point of view of Public Health, this vast trade is a matter of considerable importance. Even with the existing system of guarantees, notifications, etc., the work of control is a matter of continuing concern.

WATER SUPPLY

During 1969 three samples of water were taken by the Local Authority from the Public Supply and submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination, with satisfactory results. The South West Suburban Water Company are the suppliers for practically the whole of the Council's area and have furnished the following details covering the year under review:- "3892 samples were examined bacteriologically by this Laboratory during the year, including 1812 samples representative of South West Suburban supply. 98.6% of all samples representative of the water supplied by the Company were free from coliform bacteria compared with 99.0% in 1968 and 98.9% in 1967. 99.8% was free from E. Coli.

2469 samples were analysed chemically and determination of radioactivity in both raw and treated water made.

The average fluoride content of the water in the supply was 0.18 parts per million in 1969. The maximum was 0.31 parts per million and the minimum 0.08 parts per million."

The number of dwellings in the area is estimated to be:-

803 in the Parish of Sunningdale.
2,798 in the Parish of Sunninghill.
1,607 in the Parish of Old Windsor.

23 dwellings on Friary Island, Old Windsor, are served by the Rickmansworth & Uxbridge Valley Water Co., and the remainder of the district is supplied from the public water mains direct to houses by the South West Suburban Water Co., Staines. No dwellings in this area are supplied by means of stand pipes.

SWIMMING POOLS

There are 15 commercial and educational establishments with swimming pools in the district. A water sample was taken from each of these swimming pools and all were found to be satisfactory except in one case a repeat sample was necessary. Advice was given in a number of cases on the attention and maintenance of the filtration and chlorination units.

HOUSING

At the beginning of the year 47 Old People's dwellings comprising three blocks of flats, one block of flatlets and a Warden's flat built by the Council on an existing housing estate at Sunninghill were brought into occupation. In August a further scheme in Old Windsor to provide Old People's dwellings comprising 21 flatlets, 6 one bedroom flats and a Warden's flat was completed. These additions brought the number of such schemes completed to six, providing 148 units of accommodation specially suited to the needs of the elderly and with a resident warden at each. At the same time 6 one bedroom bungalows for Old People were provided in Sunningdale.

In May, work was started on a scheme by the Hanover Housing Association with the financial backing of the Council to provide 40 flats for Old People at Old Windsor.

During the year 61 houses were completed by Private Enterprise.

Under the 1958 and 1964 Housing Acts, Discretionary Grants amounting to £1474 and Standard Grants amounting to £780 were approved by the Council for 4 and 7 dwellings respectively.

On the 25th August the Housing Act 1969 came into force and at the end of the year the Council had approved Improvement Grants amounting to £12,870 for 21 dwellings including a conversion to provide 8 Old People's dwellings and Standard Grants amounting to £1,045 for 7 dwellings.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

As previously reported, there are none in this area.

PEST CONTROL

During the year under review, as a result of complaints, 243 properties were visited of which 195 were found to be infested with rats and 19 with mice. In addition, 732 properties were surveyed for the presence of rats and 56 infestations were discovered. In all cases of infestation, treatment was carried out including follow up visits. In conjunction with Ministry officers, 10% of the sewer manholes in Sunninghill/Cheapside were test baited for the presence of rats but no 'takes' were reported.

Complaints relating to other pests were dealt with as follows :-

Wasps nests	...	202
Ants nests	...	15
Miscellaneous pests		17
(cockroaches, fleas, etc.)		

The number of wasps nests reported was exceptionally high.

Swampy areas and ponds in the district were treated with soluble capsules and sprays for the elimination of mosquitoes.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Public Conveniences (one in Ascot, one in Sunninghill and one in Old Windsor) continue to be subject to vandalism although not on an extensive scale. Without full time duty supervision, which is not justified, it is impossible to keep the facilities always maintained at the desirable standard. In each of the Conveniences, running water, soap and electrically operated warm air hand dryers are provided.

SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The modernised sewage disposal works for Sunninghill and Sunningdale Parishes and three automatic pumping stations for approximately $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles of pumping main were brought into operation in 1968.

To cope with the problem of sludge disposal, tankering of liquid digested sludge on to neighbouring farm lands was continued while investigations were carried out at the Council's works and at the works of Newbury Borough Council, by Plant Manufacturers of mechanical dewatering equipment, in conjunction with the Council's Consultants.

In October an investigation was made by an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing & Local Government into the Council's proposals for additional works involving the installation of plant to remove rags and grit at the inlet to the Outfall Works and the covering of wet wells at Buckhurst Park Pumping Station.

At two pumping stations there have been recurring difficulties involving smell and at the third station, the problem of pumps not giving their full designed output despite modifications has still to be overcome.

A considerable amount of officers' time, which could ill be spared, was spent on the supervision of repairs to a 15" dia. sewer and to the diversion of a 6" sewer necessitated by their fracture during the laying by Contractors of the 24" dia. Ascot to Mogador Gas Main.

The whole area may be said to be fully sewered and, apart from some properties where connection is not practicable, all properties are connected. For those dwellings drained to cesspools the Council provide, by the employment of Contractors, a partially free emptying service by which 12 x 1,000 gallon loads are removed from a single property in any one year without charge. Owner/occupiers are responsible for the removal of sewage in excess of this quantity.

SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE

Design work on revisions of the first stage of the Blackmoor Valley Surface Water Drainage Scheme being undertaken jointly by the Easthampstead and Windsor Rural District Councils estimated to cost in total about £320,000 were carried forward to the stage of a submission for approval in principle by the Ministry. The Blackmoor stream is a common boundary between the two Councils and due to extensive development in the catchment area flooding of riparian properties occurs after any period of prolonged rainfall.

In November the Ministry approved in principle the Council's proposals relating to the surface water drainage scheme at Llanvair Close/Horsegate Ride, South Ascot, at an estimated total cost of £22,000, designed to eliminate the flooding that invariably happens after heavy rainfall.

REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL

Loan sanction approval was given early in the year to a joint disposal scheme with Easthampstead Rural District Council for duplicate line refuse pulverisation plant at Longshot Lane, Bracknell which, it was hoped, would be commissioned before the end of 1969. Due to difficulties on site it was not possible to keep to the planned schedule and completion was delayed until 1970. This caused difficulties in maintaining the Council's South Ascot Tip during the interim period.

By arrangements with a private Contractor old and abandoned cars are, on notification or on being found, collected and taken to a breakers yard without cost to the Council. During the year 29 vehicles were dealt with in this way and Licencing Authorities notified.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

NARRATIVE REPORT

All premises in the Rural District registered under the Act received a general inspection during the year and ten written notices were served drawing attention to items not in conformity with the statutory requirements. No accidents were reported during the year.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

PREMISES (1)	NUMBER ON REGISTER (2)	NUMBER OF		
		INSPECTIONS (3)	WRITTEN NOTICES (4)	OCCUPIERS PROSECUTED (5)
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	51	28	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	53	30	1	-

FACTORIES ACT (Ct'd)

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS	NUMBER OF DEFECTS				PROSECUTIONS INSTITUTED
	FOUND	REMEDIED	REFERRED TO H.M. INSPECTOR	REFERRED BY H.M. INSPECTOR	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	2	2	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	-	-

OUTWORKERS

Number of outworkers returned on the August List ... 1 (Wearing Apparel)

